

GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM  
CRITERIA WORKSHEET (2003)

Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Application No: \_\_\_\_\_

Land being offered is currently being utilized as a grazing operation or hayland (excluding annual hay species) and is 40 ac. or larger in size. The land includes grasslands; land that contains forbs; shrub land, including improved rangeland and pastureland; or land that is located in an area that has been historically dominated by grassland, forbs, and shrub lands when these lands have the potential to enhance plant and animal biodiversity. Yes ☐ No ☐ [If "yes" continue. If "no", discontinue ranking and notify the applicant the land is ineligible for the grass Grassland Reserve Program (GRP).]

Type of GRP agreement offered (checked one):      Rental Agreement \_\_\_\_ 10-year \_\_\_\_ 15 year \_\_\_\_ 20 year \_\_\_\_ 30 year

Summary of offered land (land types other than rangeland, pastureland and grazed forest are not eligible to be offered or enrolled):

Enter nearest whole acre

Total acres offered \_\_\_\_\_ ac.

Acres of native cover (native sod never been tilled) \_\_\_\_\_ ac.

Acres needing restoration \_\_\_\_\_ ac.

Enter to nearest whole dollar

Estimated restoration costs \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Total cost share required for restoration)

Estimated total cost of rental agreement \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Annual rental x total acres x length of contract)

Estimated total cost of easement \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Estimated easement cost x total acres)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Circle correct Value

Score

**A. THREATS TO CONVERSION** – At least 55% of the points must be for conversion risk. (GRP Manual Page 14.

**Threat to conversion – Urban land** [percent of offered grassland that could be converted to built-up]

Land that according to the FOTG Section II, its soil mapping unit and other land of importance  
Was classified within Soil Capability Units class I, II, and III. 50

Land that according to the FOTG Section II, its soil mapping unit and other land of importance was  
classified within soil capability units class IV, V, VI, and VII 25

Score \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Threat to conversion – cultivation**

Land that according to the FOTG Section II, its Soil Mapping unit with the greatest potential for  
for cultivation was classified within soil capability of class I, II, and III. 30

Land that according to the FOTG Section II, its Soil Mapping unit with the greatest potential for  
for cultivation was classified within soil capability unit class IV, V, and VI 15

Land that according to the FOTG Section II, its Soil Mapping unit with the greatest potential for  
for cultivation was classified within soil capability unit class VII and VIII 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Threat to conversion – invasive plants** [Area must have presence of, or adjacent to land with  
invasive species present. (**See attachment No. 1**). Participant will be required to remove and maintain  
the control of these species for the life of the agreement. Restoration cost-share may be available  
for the initial treatment within two years of enrollment in the GRP. Following the initial treatment  
the participant will have to maintain the population of these plants at a rate of 15% plant composition  
for the field in which they are present.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)****Circle correct Value****Score**

Species present on offered acres at or less than 30% of offered acres impacted  
 Species present on offered acres at 30% - 50% of offered acres impacted  
 Species present on offered acres at 51 – 75% offered acres impacted  
 Species present at ≥76% offered acres impacted

15  
 10  
 5  
 1

**Score****Total points for threat to conversion (A.1.+A.2.=Total) Maximum allowed is 95 points****Total Score A.** \_\_\_\_\_**B. Calculate maximum points allowed for non-conversion considerations****Circle correct Value****Score****NON-CONVERSION CONSIDERATIONS**

- 1) **Enrollment option selected by applicant.** [ Weight is assigned to the option providing the greatest opportunity to meet the long-term objectives of the program.]

☐ 30 - year rental agreement  
☐ 20 - year rental agreement  
☐ 15 – year rental agreement  
☐ 10 – year rental agreement

20  
 15  
 10  
 1

**Score**

- 2) **Acres of grazing land to be protected, restored, or enhanced** [Area enrolled will have Prescribe Grazing (528A)&/or Forage Harvest Management (511) planned and maintained in the conservation plan for the life of the agreement/easement. Exclusion from the easement may not exceed 1 undeveloped 2 ac. site per 50 acres offered.

151 – more acres  
 101 – 150 acres  
 40 – 100 acres

10  
 5  
 2

**Score**

- 3) **Location Significance – Proximity of area offered to other protected acres such as refuges and wildlife Management areas, national and State forests, natural areas, or permanent conservation easements** [Protected areas must be 40 ac. or greater in size]

Area offered is immediately adjacent to historic sites listed in Section II of the FOTG (National Register of Historic Places), Permanent Conservation Easements, area of resource of special environmental significance or sensitivity for endangered or threaten species (flora or fauna), USFWS refuges, etc.

10

Area offered is not adjacent to any location of significant benefit to state and federal protected acres

2

**Score**

- 4) **Area offered includes predominately native pastureland** [Area must be protected From uncontrolled livestock use by prescribe Grazing (528A), Forage Harvest Management (511), or Use Exclusion (472) in order to receive points.]

Area offered is native grasslands that has never been tilled or re-established by planting.

10

Area offered is a abandoned cropland field that have established native tree plants through natural regeneration.

5

**Score**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)****Circle correct Value****Score****5) Essential habitat for endangered and threaten wildlife**

Area offered is a known habitat for endangered and threaten species and benefits to the species will occur through development of a conservation plan that addresses habitat requirements for the identified Species. Conservation plan will include Upland Wildlife Management (645) addressing essential habitat needs of identified specie(s).

10

Benefits to endangered and threaten species will not occur

2

**Score**

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**TOTAL POINTS FOR NON-CONVERSION CONSIDERATION (Category B.1+B.2  
B.3+B.4+B.5) (Maximum allowed points is 60 points)****EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)****Circle correct Value****Score**

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**B) TOTAL POINTS FOR THREAT TO CONVERSION (Total of Category A from page 2)**

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**TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR OFFERED AREA (Add totals of A + B)****Maximum allowable points A + B****155**

Evaluation Completed By: (signatures)

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Designated Conservationist

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Date

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Applicant

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Date